



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

**NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE**

TM02/0522

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/231,745	01/15/99	016	TESFAMARIAM, M 2162	05/22/01
First Named Applicant	D' AGOSTINO, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING SECURE CREDIT CARD PURCHASES

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2 1.706.98	705-044.000	G58	UTILITY	YES	\$620.00	08/22/01

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

**I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.**

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE COPY

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
09/231,745

Applicant(s)  
John D' Agostino

Examiner  
Mussie Tesfamarlam

Art Unit  
2162



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/27/01
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-10, 12-15, and 17-19
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are acceptable as formal drawings.
4. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☒ Some\*    c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_
5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE FOR SUBMITTING NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS, OR A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION.** This three-month period for complying with the REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL is extendable under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

6. ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
7. ☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

8. ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any reply to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

- 1 ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 3 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 5 ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- 9 ☐ Other
- 2 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 4 ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8 ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

ERIC W. STAMBER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 2764

*Allowable Subject Matter*

8. Claims 2-10, 12-15, 17-19 are allowed.

9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record Elgamal, 5671279 disclose in contacting a custodial authorizing entity having custodial responsibility of account of a customer's credit card account. He discloses also in supplying the custodial authorizing entity with account identification. He also discloses in designating a payment category. He also discloses in generating signature for transactions. He also communicating the transaction code to merchant to consummate a purchase within defined purchase parameters utilizing transaction code. However, Elgamal, 5671279 considered as a whole fail to disclose or suggest in claim 18 in defining a plurality of payment categories, at least one of said payment categories including at least two of said purchase authorizations for a repeating transaction at a fixed amount payable at each of a fixed number of time intervals.

10. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record Elgamal, 5671279 disclose in contacting a custodial authorizing entity having custodial responsibility of account of a customer's credit card account. He discloses also in supplying the custodial authorizing entity with account identification. He also discloses in designating a payment category. He also discloses in generating signature for transactions. He also communicating the transaction code to merchant to consummate a purchase within defined purchase parameters utilizing transaction code. However, Elgamal, 5671279 considered as a whole fail to disclose or

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suggest in claim 19 in defining a plurality of payment categories including at least authorization for a single transaction at a fixed amount for a purchase; authorization for a single transaction at a maximum amount for a purchase; and authorization for multiple transactions at a maximum total amount for purchases.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Mussie Tesfamariam** whose telephone number is **(703)305-1393**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the **examiner's supervisor, Jim Trammell** can be reached at **(703) 305-9768**.

Any response to this office action should be mailed to:

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

**Washington, D.C. 20231**

or faxed to:

**(703)308-9051**, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

**(703)308-5357**, (for informal or draft communications, please label

**"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"**)

**Hand-delivered** responses should be brought to **Crystal park II, 2121 Crystal Drive**  
**Arlington, Virginia, (Receptionist).**

**Mussie Tesfamariam**

May 17, 2001